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4-9-2004

## Newspaper Obituaries; Book 1 (E-H)

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# Ivorite L. Echols, computer engineer

Ivorite L. Echols, 76, of Buffalo, a retired computer engineer, died Tuesday (April 9, 2002) in Buffalo General Hospital after a brief illness.

Born in Buffalo, Echols, 76, graduated from Hutchinson-Central High School and Howard University in Washington, D.C. While at Howard, he was a member of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity and was captain of the track team.

He worked as a computer engineer at Bell Laboratories in



Wheatfield for more than 20 years until his retirement in 1985. He then went to work on NASA projects in Huntsville, Ala., until 1988. At age 75, he again came out of retirement to teach computer skills classes at the Buffalo Urban League.

Echols is survived by two daughters, Corinne of Columbus, Ohio, and Eugenia of Phoenix; two brothers, Kenneth of College Park, Ga., and Nathaniel of Sterling, Va.; and two sisters, Dorothy Morgan of the Town of Tonawanda and Mattie E. Moore of the Bronx.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday in First Shiloh Baptist Church, 15 Pine St. Burial will be in Forest Lawn.

# Kenvel C. Echols, church and civic leader

A funeral for Kenvel C. Echols, long active in community affairs, will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday in First Shiloh Baptist Church, 15 Pine St. Burial will be in Forest Lawn.

Mrs. Echols, 78, died Tuesday (March 14, 1995) in her East Amherst home after a brief illness.

The former Kenvel Jones was a graduate of the former Fosdick-Masten High School and studied nursing for a brief period at Erie Community College.

The widow of the Rev. Elijah J. Echols, she worked with him in continuing the mission of First Shiloh Baptist Church, which had been founded 66 years ago and where his father and his grandfather were pastors.

She was mother of the late David L. Echols, former director of the Buffalo Municipal Housing Authority.

The first black woman to be elected president of the American Baptist Churches of Niagara County, she was also active in the American Women's Baptist Con-

ference of Erie County.

She was a member of Church Women United, the Ministers and Widowed Wives of Ministers of the Empire State Missionary Baptist Convention and a member of the board of the Buffalo and Erie County United Way.

She was also a member of Meals on Wheels and the Buffalo Federation of Neighborhood Centers. She received numerous awards over her 60 years of service in the community, including the Sojourner Award, the highest honor given by the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs.

She also traveled around the country as a speaker and facilitator of workshops for her church, was active in numerous youth programs in the city and held offices in the National Baptist Convention, USA.

Survivors include two sons; Elijah J. III and Paul R.; four daughters, Marsha A., Cynthia and Judith, all of East Amherst, and Sharon K. Kelly of Los Angeles; 13 grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.





# Floyd J. Edwards dies; police captain beat bias

By JAY REY

*News Staff Reporter*

As one of three African-American patrolmen when he joined the Buffalo Police Department in 1950, Floyd J. Edwards not only had to fight discrimination in the community but in the police force as well.

Early in his career, for example, Edwards confronted his captain about why black officers weren't allowed to ride in patrol cars.

"I asked him to tell me why guys with less experience were riding in cars while I was walking a beat," Edwards said in a 1981 Buffalo News interview. "He looked at me and said, 'This isn't the railroad. Seniority doesn't



Floyd J.  
Edwards

mean a thing here.' I told him to look me in the eye and tell me I couldn't ride in a car because I was black. The captain told me that he'd bring me up on charges if I didn't leave his office."

Edwards' fight and perseverance paid off. He became the first African-American to achieve the ranks of lieutenant, chief of detectives and captain in the Buffalo Police Department before retiring in 1982.

He died Thursday (Feb. 15, 2001) in Veterans Administration

**See Edwards Page B10**



# Edwards: He worked his way through the ranks

*Continued from Page B1*

Medical Center. He was 75.

"He had a distinguished career," said Lt. Larry J. Baehre, a friend and former colleague. "He was well liked, admired and respected by everybody in the Police Department. He was a real gentleman."

Born in St. Louis, Edwards was raised in Buffalo by his parents, Earle and Josephine, and graduated from high school in 1943.

He got his first real taste of racial discrimination when he was drafted into the Marines during World War II and served with distinction in the South Pacific in the 2nd Marine Ammunition Company, an all-black unit with a white commander.

After the war, Edwards finished 55th out of 250 men who took the police exam and was appointed to the department. The first break in his career came in 1960, when he became the first African-American desk lieutenant in the department's history. But he wanted more.

In 1964, he was appointed lieutenant. He worked his way through the ranks as an assistant chief of detectives, then finally reached the rank of captain in 1968.

After taking over the old Cold Spring Station, he encountered some resistance from white officers. He lined them up and challenged them.

"I told those men that if any of

them wanted a piece of me, they could walk out to the garage with me right then and there, and we'd forget that I was a captain."

There were no takers, and Edwards believed that was the turning point of his career.

After Edwards retired from the department, he worked for nine years as security director at the Federal Reserve Bank on Delaware Avenue.

A member of the NAACP since 1976, Edwards was a voracious reader and enjoyed playing golf.

"My father was a person of character, strength and integrity," said one of his daughters, MaryBeth. "His life demonstrated a total commitment to family, friends and maintaining a standard of excellence in all of his endeavors."

He is survived by his wife of 52 years, the former Helen E. Kelley; three daughters, Nona Barbee of Detroit, Joanne Ruud of Piedmont, Calif., and MaryBeth of Chicago; a son, Bruce of Phoenix; a brother, Denzel Stewart; five sisters, Heedy Carmel, Georgia Parker, Erma Stewart, Edith Stewart and Jacqueline Farmer; and a grandson.

Prayers will be said at 8:45 a.m. Wednesday in Amigone Funeral Home, 1132 Delaware Ave. A Mass of Christian Burial will be offered at 9:30 at St. Benedict's Catholic Church, 1317 Eggert Road at Main Street, Eggertsville. Burial will be in Forest Lawn.

# Robert D. Edwards, Postal Service employee

Robert D. Edwards started as a substitute clerk, and 32 years and seven promotions later, he retired as the highest-ranking African-American Postal Service employee in upstate New York.

Edwards, 85, recently died in a hospital in Atlanta after a brief illness.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday in St. Philip's Episcopal Church, Sussex and Grider avenues. Interment will be in Elmlawn Cemetery, Town of Tonawanda.

Born in Buffalo, Edwards was a 1929 graduate of Fosdick-Masten High School, where he was All-High in track and basketball and a three-time member of the Yale Cup team.

He went on to Knoxville College in Tennessee, where he earned a degree with honors in

chemistry. He also was president of his freshman, sophomore and junior classes.

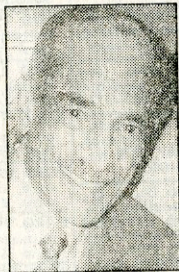
As a postal employee, Edwards rose through the ranks to become superintendent of the Ellicott Post Office Station, an 80-employee operation with receipts of \$2 million a year. He also served as a Postal Service hearing officer and adjudicated grievance appeals filed by postal employees from across the state. He retired in 1973.

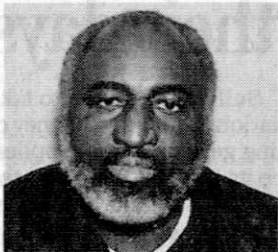
Baptized and christened at St. Philip's, he helped form the church's Memorial Fund, served as senior warden and was an active member of the choir and Men's Club.

He and Lorraine V. Jarrett Edwards, who died in 1984, were married for 43 years.

Survivors include a daughter, Lois L. Johnson; a son, Donald P. of Atlanta; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Survivors also include Avonelle Palmby, his wife from 1986 to 1995, of Naples, Fla.





## **ELDER—Charlie Lee, Sr.**



June 12, 2007; beloved husband of Maude (nee Harris) Elder; devoted father of Charlie Lee, Jr., Charles Key and Reginald Elder; loving

grandfather of Nicole Amanda, Simone Chantel and Timothy Ryan Elder; dear brother of Chineta (Herbert) Stroud; also survived by nieces, nephews, cousins and a host of friends. The family will be present on Sunday from 6-8 PM at (Delaware Chapel) AMIGONE FUNERAL HOME, INC., 1132 Delaware Ave. (near W. Ferry St.). Funeral Services will be held Monday at 11 AM following a visitation from 10-11 AM at Metropolitan United Methodist Church, 657 Best St., Buffalo. Friends invited. Flowers graciously declined. Donations may be made to the American Heart Association or American Lung Association. Online register book at [www.Amigone.com](http://www.Amigone.com)



**ERTEL—George W.**

March 12, 1996 of Orchard Park, NY; beloved husband of Reta J. (nee Lee); loving father of Linda J. (James) Muck and Faith L. Ertel; devoted grandfather of Erica Lynn Muck; brother of Loretta Roehling, Wilbur, late Alvin, Carl (Mildred) Ertel and Florina Miller. Family will be present Wednesday and Thursday 2-4 and 7-9 PM at the HOY FUNERAL HOME INC, 3855 Seneca St., West Seneca, where a funeral service will be held Friday morning at 11. Friends invited. Memorials may be made to Trinity Lutheran Church or Lutheran Association of Developmentally disabled

**EVANS—George**

September 27, 1994 of Amherst, NY.  
Beloved husband of June. Stepfather of  
Stephanie, Eugene and Scott. Uncle of  
Linda, Joanne, Tony, Michael, Melinda and  
Raylin. Cousin of Hilda Evans, Bernice  
Woodard and Elizabeth Green. Also sur-  
vived by other relatives and friends. Friends  
may call Friday at MEMORIAL CHAPELS OF  
BUFFALO, 66 E. Utica St. where visitation  
will begin at 11 AM. Services immediately  
following at 12 Noon.

**EVANS—James D. (Yamie)**

July 24, 1994, beloved husband of Dorothy (Easley) Evans; dear brother of Willa Mae (Evans) Martin; also survived by four children, 15 grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren and a host of other relatives and friends. Family will be present to receive friends Thursday July 28, 11 AM. Funeral services following at 12 noon at WALTER M. GRIGGS JR. FUNERAL HOME, 2524 Main St. Interment Mt Hope Cemetery.



## **EVANS—John**



March 15, 1996, loving father of Nicola S. and A. Tracy Evans of Smyrna, GA; grandfather of John and Jason M.

Traylor of Smyrna, GA; brother of Amelia Hawkins of Buffalo, Eula Keglur of Englewood, NJ; also survived by numerous relatives and friends. Memorial service Tuesday 6:30 PM, at St. Phillips Episcopal Church, 18 Sussex St. Arrangements by THOMAS T. EDWARDS FUNERAL HOME INC.

# Nancy Timms Evans, worked for sickle cell agency

Nancy Timms Evans, 81, retired administrative assistant for the Niagara Frontier Association for Sickle Cell Disease, died Sunday (Nov. 16, 1997) in Buffalo General Hospital after an illness of six weeks.



Born in Stoney Creek, Va., she moved to Buffalo with her family when she was 2 years old and remained the rest

of her life.

She was a graduate of Hutchinson-Central High School and worked for the Internal Revenue Service as a secretary when she was a young woman. She and her husband, Elre Thomas Evans, operated the Chet and Al Restaurant on William Street for several years

after World War II.

Mrs. Evans worked for many years with the Head Start program and spent the last two years of her working life with the Association for Sickle Cell Disease before retiring 15 years ago.

She served as clerk, secretary and trustee of New Covenant United Church of Christ and was active in community and social organizations.

Her husband of 53 years died in 1990.

Survivors include a daughter, Rosemary S. Soffin; a son, Terrance of Houma, La.; a sister, Hattie T. Whalen; and seven grandchildren.

A wake will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, followed by a service at noon in New Covenant United Church of Christ, 459 Clinton St. Burial will be in Buffalo Cemetery, Cheektowaga.

## **FAGANS—Ralph C.**

October 6, 1994, husband of Cibalo Delois (McRucker) Fagans; father of three daughters, Yvette Weegee Hill, Marlana (Gary Sr.) Long, of Buffalo, NY and Chrystal (Avon Hamm) Richardson, of Stone Mountain, GA; grandfather of Marquita, Jakota, LaShon, Gary Jr., Marlen and Brianna, of Buffalo, D'Toine and Chavon of Stone Mountain, GA; he leaves one brother, Earl (Mercedes) Fagans of Buffalo; two sisters, Susan (Howard) Tillman of Buffalo and Audrey (Terry) Davis of Gary, IN; he was preceded in death by his parents, Wesley and Nancy Fagans and four brothers, Connie, Milton, Henry and George; Mr. Fagans was a long time employee at City Hall Division of Development, Department of Community Development where he served as a contract/specification coordinator. He was also a veteran of WWII Air Force. Funeral services will be held on Monday October 10, 1994, at 1 PM at H. ALFRED LEWIS MORTUARY, 968 Jefferson Ave. Family members will receive friends there on Sunday October 9, 1994 from 4 PM to 6 PM.



# Clyde T. Farrell, civic leader, insurance agent

Longtime Buffalo civic leader and retired insurance agent Clyde T. Farrell, 86, died Wednesday (Jan. 12, 2000) in Deaconess Nursing Home after a two-year illness.

Born in Omaha, Neb., Farrell graduated from school there and moved to Buffalo when he was 18. He graduated from Buffalo Technical School, becoming proficient in electrical and mechanical skills. He later attended the University of Buffalo and helped build the Grand Island Bridges.

Farrell also became fluent in Spanish through the International Institute on Delaware Avenue.

Farrell began his insurance career in 1946 as an agent with United Mutual Life Insurance Co. before advancing to a position as general agent, and later starting his insurance business, Clyde T. Farrell Insurance Agency, in 1959. The firm, which he built into a brokerage, was located in the Statler Towers until he retired in 1988. The business has been sold to Lawley Services.

While running an insurance company, he also became actively involved in overseeing two bowling alleys. During the 1950s, he was a charter member and president of the now-closed Ellicott Lanes on



Genesee Street in Cheektowaga.

Several years later, he became president of Allied-Ellicott bowling lanes on Manhattan Avenue. The business closed in 1999.

The recipient of several community awards, Farrell was active on the boards of several community organizations, including Goodwill Industries, Better Business Bureau of Western New York, Professional Insurance Agents of New York, Greater Buffalo Partnership and the Michigan Avenue YMCA.

Farrell also was a member of the Buffalo Urban League and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and served as the insurer of the Metro rapid transit system.

He joined the First Shiloh Baptist Church, serving as a chairman of the board of trustees and the church council. He later became a member of an offshoot of that church, the Free Spirit Missionary Baptist Church, at its founding, and served on its board of trustees and with the laymen movement.

Survivors include his wife of 65 years, Frankie L.; three daughters, Beverly Franklin of Linden, N.J., Lelia Byrd and Ada Hall; six grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. Monday in Free Spirit Missionary Baptist Church, 60 Titus Ave. near Broadway. Burial will be in Forest Lawn.

## Jennel Fenty

Jennel Foote Tillman Fenty of Buffalo, an accomplished crafter who shared her skills with a number of aspiring crafters, died unexpectedly Thursday (Feb. 27, 2003) in her home. She was 88.



Born Jennel Foote in Calhoun Falls, S.C., she came to Buffalo when she was 2 and remained in the city the rest of her life. She was a graduate of Hutchinson-Central High School.

A homemaker who raised four sons, she was known for her exquisite needlework, which included quilts, afghans and crochet work. She took classes and taught those skills to many people.

Known for her beautiful ceramic creations and her award-winning flower garden, Mrs. Fenty also enjoyed bowling and bridge.

The widow of Norman Fenty, who died in 1995, she is survived by three sons, David of Endicott, Philip of Washington, D.C., and Michael of Buffalo; a sister, Anne Currin of Buffalo; 11 grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday in St. Philip Episcopal Church, 18 Sussex Ave. Burial will be in Forest Lawn.



# Norman A. Fenty, retired hospital orderly

A Mass for Norman A. Fenty, 82, will be offered at 11 a.m. Thursday in St. Philip's Episcopal Church, 15 Fernhill Ave., which he attended for 70 years. Burial will be in Forest Lawn.

Fenty, of Buffalo, died Sunday (Feb. 19, 1995) in the Episcopal Church Home after a long illness.

Born in Panama City, Panama, he came to Buffalo with his family at the age of 9.

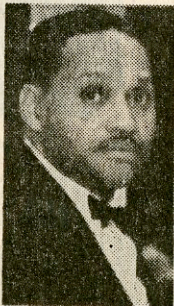
At St. Philip's, he had served as a vestryman, an adviser to Boy Scout Troop 266 and was a member of the men's club and senior citizens club. In 1983, the parish

named him Father of the Year.

He retired in 1984 from Buffalo General Hospital, where he was an orderly. Earlier, he had worked for Ford Motor Co., Erie County Medical Center and New York Central Railroad.

Fenty was one of the first graduates of School 75. He also was a graduate of Fosdick-Masten High School and attended Lincoln University in Pennsylvania.

Survivors include his wife of 60 years, the former Jenell Tillman; four sons, David of Endicott, Philip of Washington, Russell and Michael; his stepmother, Della Fenty of Cleveland; a sister, Gwendolyn F. Vanveer of Cleveland; a brother, Phillip Arnold of Los Angeles; 10 grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.





**DORIS LOURINE CLARKE FERGUSON**

**1927 - 1994**

Doris Lourine (Clarke) Ferguson was born on February 11, 1927 to the late Beresford and Annie Eliza (James) Clarke in Toronto, Ontario. She was called to her eternal rest on Monday, July 11, 1994 at Wellesley Hospital - thirty-six years to the date of her mother's passing.

Doris attended Ryerson Public School, Harbord Collegiate and Central High School of Commerce, all in Toronto. Although she had varied work experiences, Doris will best be remembered for her dramatic acting ability, especially with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation television network; her efficient yet caring manner as head secretary at Maplewood Vocational School in Scarborough from 1968-81; and her sensitive and strong presence as the Community Liaison Officer for the West Indian Community, Scarborough Board of Education, a position which she proudly held from 1981 until her retirement in 1992.

Doris was always interested in athletics since she joined the Toronto and District Basketball team in 1942. She was a member of the Heron Park Tennis Club, the Stephen Leacock Tennis Club, and the Maplewood Badminton Club, and won numerous championships.

Doris was a truly dedicated member and served in many capacities at St. Mark's United Church. She had an abiding faith and a personal relationship with her God.

Doris was very active in many community organizations. Among them - member of the Ontario Black History Society, which in 1990 honoured her with the Society's volunteer award; member of the Congress of Black Women of Canada; and member of Club Fuanga. In 1992 she was one of the recipients of the Canada 125 commemorative medal.

'Do', as she was known to many, was a numble yet fun-loving person who endeared herself to all who came in contact with her. She always displayed that glowing smile in sickness and in health, and unobtrusively went about doing her many acts of kindness.

She leaves to cherish her memory her son, Kelvin James Ferguson, her sister Muriel Clarke, her brother Beresford Clarke, her niece and her husband Janice and Chester Searles, her godchildren, and her many cousins. Among her many friends she will fondly be remembered by Marcella Hope and Muriel Acquaaah-Harrison.

Doris' family wishes to extend their sincerest thanks for the many kind and thoughtful expressions of love and sympathy. "Your prayers and support are deeply appreciated, and will continue to strengthen us as we walk forward with the Lord."

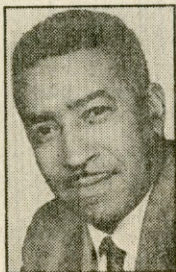


**FERGUSON—Margaret L. "Frances"**  
June 23, 1998; wife of the late James Ferguson; loving mother of Diane (Roy) Weaver, Peggy (Gerald) Patterson, Monica, James Jr. (Debra) Ferguson and Karen Mayweather; grandmother of seven; great-grandmother of one; also survived by two sisters, one brother and a host of other relatives and friends. Wake 11:00 AM Friday at Antioch Baptist Church, 1327 Fillmore Ave. Funeral following 12:00 noon. Interment at Forest Lawn Cemetery. In lieu of flowers please make contributions to the WNY Lupus Foundation. Arrangements by PROVIDENCE MEMORIAL CHAPEL.



# David E. Fields, Red Cross director, active in community service, dies

David E. Fields, 80, a retired city worker who was involved in community human service programs, and served as a director of the local American Red Cross, died Friday (Nov. 6, 1998) in Millard Fillmore Hospital after a long illness.



Fields was born in Buffalo and attended local schools. He graduated from Hutchinson-Central High School. From 1968, when he was among the first African-Americans to work for the city, until 1992, Fields was a rehabilitation and construction analyst for the city Department of Community Development.

He also used his skills to do interior decoration and redesign in some of the area's most exclusive homes before going to work for the city.

Fields distributed Thanksgiving baskets to families and others in need for more than a decade. Community agencies gave him some names of the needy, but Fields financially supported the program for years and made an effort to identify the needy on his own. The final years he distributed Thanksgiving baskets he had nearly 200 households on his list.

A volunteer with the American Red Cross disaster service for 10

years, Fields served as volunteer disaster chairman for the Greater Buffalo Regional Chapter and was a member of its executive board as well as the board of directors.

He also was publicity director for the Senior Companion Programs, an executive board member of the Erie County Head Start Program, and an adviser for the Young Adults Coalition of Buffalo.

For most of the 1970s, Fields was head of security at Melody Fair and was known as "Big Dave" to the stars he shepherded while they were in the city. He often held dinner parties in his home that included such performers as Sammy Davis Jr., Red Foxx, Gladys Knight and the Pips, Harry Belafonte, B.B. King, Della Reese, Nancy Wilson, and others. Some of the performers mailed Fields their menu before they came to perform at the North Tonawanda venue.

Surviving are two daughters, Patricia L. Goss, and Sharron J. Holmes; a stepbrother, Ulysses G. Curry; a stepsister, Mildred Mitchell of Palo Alto, Calif.; his late brother's children, whom he helped raise, Evelyn L. Woods and Leonard; three grandchildren; and three great grandchildren.

Services were held today in Bethel AME Church, Michigan Avenue and East Ferry Street. Burial was in Forest Lawn.

**FIRST—Melba G.**

July 5, 1997; wife of the late James A.; sister of Leonard J. Garr (Jeanette) and Callie M. Lockett (Charles); also survived by nieces, nephews and friends. The family will receive friends Friday 11 AM at Bethel A.M.E. Church, East Ferry and Michigan Ave., where funeral service will follow at 12 Noon, Rev. Pedro Castro officiating. Interment in Forest Lawn Cemetery. Arrangements by H. ALFRED LEWIS MORTUARY.

# Louis J. Fumerelle, operated restaurant

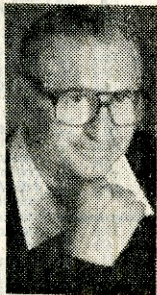
A Mass of Christian Burial will be offered at 10 a.m. Wednesday in St. Bernadette's Catholic Church, 5930 S. Abbott Road, Orchard Park, for Louis J. Fumerelle, 76, of Hamburg.

The Mass will follow prayers at 9:15 in Lombardo Funeral Home, 3060 Abbott Road, Hamburg. Entombment will be in Hillcrest Cemetery, Hamburg.

Fumerelle died Sunday (July 23, 1995) in Veterans Hospital after a brief illness.

Born in Buffalo, he served in the Army in World War II under Gen. George Patton and was awarded the Purple Heart.

For 35 years, he operated a restaurant, Joe's Lunch, first at Jefferson Avenue and William Street,



then at William and Emslie streets. Later, he worked as a laborer with Laborers Local 210.

A consultant to the Piccolo School of Hair Design, owned by his son, Louis, he was known as "Gramps" to the staff and students and encouraged many of them in their careers.

A member of the Horsemen's Association for 30 years, he was a regular figure at Buffalo Raceway. One of his horses, Shannon Kelly, won 13 consecutive races.

He was a life member of Adam Plewacki Post 799, American Legion.

He married Josephine Fino in 1938.

In addition to his wife, survivors include two sons, Richard "Rocky" of Lackawanna and Louis of West Seneca; a brother, Anthony of Williamsville; a sister, Virginia Lombardo of Miramar, Fla.; five grandchildren; and two great-grandsons.



# James D. Gant

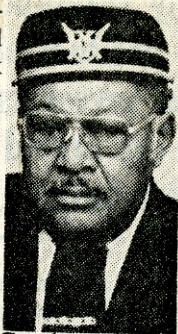
Funeral services for James D. Gant, 73, of Buffalo will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday in Humboldt Parkway Baptist Church, 790 Humboldt Parkway. Interment will be in Acacia Park Cemetery, Pendleton.

Gant died Saturday (June 17, 1995) while visiting his wife in St. Francis Hospital.

Born in Buffalo, he worked as a mechanic for the Greyhound Bus Corp. here for many years. He retired in 1983.

Active in Humboldt Parkway Baptist Church for more than 50 years, he formerly served as a deacon. Gant was a member of St. John's Lodge 16, F&AM; the Bison Consistory; and Hadji Shrine Temple. He was a model-train buff.

Surviving are his wife, the former Emma Jean Carpenter; a son, James A.; a brother, Nickolas; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.



**GARR—Leonard Jerome**

January 27, 2002; beloved husband of Jeanette H.; father of Michael Kevin Troop-Garr (Christine) and Roderick Stephen; brother of Callie M. Lockett (Charles); also survived by relatives and friends. Viewing Wednesday 12-5 PM at the H. ALFRED LEWIS MORTUARY, INC., 968 Jefferson Ave. Wake Thursday Noon at Bethel A.M.E. Church, 15625 Michigan Ave., E. Ferry St., Funeral service at 1 PM. Interment in Forest Lawn Cemetery.



## **GASKIN—Sirlee**



Entered into rest August 13, 2000; husband of the late Glennie (nee Garrison); beloved brother of Fred Gaskin; also survived by nieces, nephews and other relatives. Friends may call at THOMAS T. EDWARDS FUNERAL HOME INC., 995 Genesee St., Thursday August 17, 11 AM-7 PM. The family will receive friends Friday August 18, 11 AM, at Lincoln Memorial United Methodist Church, 641 Masten Ave., where funeral services will follow at 12 noon. Entombment Forest Lawn Rosewood Mausoleum.

# Minnie Gillette dies at 62; first black woman legislator

By CARL ALLEN  
News Staff Reporter

Minnie Gillette, the first African-American woman elected to the Erie County Legislature, died Tuesday (Jan. 7, 1992) in Roswell Park Cancer Institute. She was 62.

Ms. Gillette, who was first elected to the Legislature in 1977 with the backing of the Democratic, Republican and Conservative parties, had been ill with cancer for about a year, but continued to work on community-based projects, until she was hospitalized about two weeks ago, family members said.

Memorial services will be announced later. Burial will be private.

Ms. Gillette was considered a feisty political figure who strayed from party lines in the interest of her constituents.

"I want to find out the barriers we need to overcome to admit inner-city youth to county employment programs," Ms. Gillette said shortly before being elected to the Legislature, representing mostly the city's Ellicott District. "We need to develop a meaningful plan to attract all youth back to the city."

After her election to the Legislature, Ms. Gillette allied herself with the Republicans.

She was joined by fellow Democrat Stanley H. Zagora, giving the Republicans a working majority in the Legislature until the early 1980s.

As a legislator, Ms. Gillette, a former director of the Model Cities program and past vice president of the Ellicott Community Action Organization, joined with County Legislator Joan K. Bozer, R-Buffalo, to spearhead the move to convert the former main post office building into the Erie Community College City Campus.

Ms. Gillette also helped establish the "Ram Van," a traveling lending library, and fought to help minority contractors receive a fair share of county contracts.

Mrs. Bozer remembers Mrs. Gillette as "a hard-working, compassionate, very savvy and hard-working person who was always trying to bring people together."

"She was a peacemaker who had a talent for resolving differences. Her death is a real loss to the community."

County Executive Gorski, a former county legislator, said Mrs. Gillette "served her community well and with dedication. Her death leaves a void in our county."

Leonard R. Lenihan, D-Town of Tonawanda, majority leader of the Legislature, said Mrs. Gillette was not a traditional politician.

"Her principal concern was serving her constituents, which she did extremely well. She rarely got involved in partisan politics."

Even after she left the Legislature, Mrs. Gillette "continued her work as a tireless advocate for the homeless, the poor and the needy," Lenihan added.

Ms. Gillette served two terms in the County Legislature, losing in 1981 to Democrat Barry L. Robinson.

She was appointed as the first director of the county's Victim/Witness Assistance Program, and more recently served as an elec-



Minnie Gillette

tions inspector.

Ms. Gillette continued to work for a food pantry in the Towne Gardens housing project.

Ms. Gillette, coordinator of food distribution to the hungry, received a Martin Luther King Award in 1990 at the annual Martin Luther King Awards Dinner sponsored by the Erie County Chapter of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

Born in Apelia, Ala., Ms. Gillette was raised in Buffalo.

Before becoming involved in politics, she was active in such organizations as the Community Action Organization and the Western New York Health System Agency.

For many years she worked at Columbus Hospital as dietary supervisor. She obtained her bachelor of science degree in nutrition from Buffalo State College.

Mrs. Gillette sat of the board of managers of the William-Emslie YMCA, and helped establish the senior citizens center there. She served as a chairwoman of the Seventh (Ellicott) District Planning Board, and on the Advisory Board of the Equal Opportunity Center on Washington Street.

At the time of her death, Ms. Gillette was president of the New York State Community Action Agency.

She was a past president of the Association for Retarded Children. In 1986, Gov. Cuomo appointed her to the Board of Visitors of the West Seneca Developmental Center. She was past worthy Matron of Paramount Chapter 57 of the Order of Eastern Star. Her also was a member of the advisory board of the Jesse E. Nash Health Center.

An early member of the Black Leadership Forum, Ms. Gillette organized block clubs and helped register voters throughout her civic career. She was member of the Erie County Chapter of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and the Buffalo chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

In 1980 she was received the University at Buffalo's Outstanding Women of Western New York Government Award.

She also was honored by The Buffalo News as Outstanding Citizen for 1979.

Survivors include two daughters, Hasinah Ramadhan and Loretta Gillette; a son Calvin Gillette; her mother, Frances Littleton; and two grandchildren, all of Buffalo.

# Elnora Gist

Elnora Gist, a retired rooming house owner, died Wednesday (Jan. 29, 2003) after a long illness. She was 99.

Born Elnora Hodge in Union, S.C., she was a graduate of Livingston College in South Carolina. She moved to Buffalo in 1923 following her marriage.



Two years later, on a trip to New York City, a Warner Brother's Studio executive approached her and asked if she would like to go to California for a screen test. She refused, not wanting to leave her husband and son alone.

She later became a licensed cosmetologist and in 1941 began her 50-year career of purchasing properties and turning them into rooming houses throughout Buffalo.

She had acting roles in various local plays over the years, and she was an avid traveler, especially to the Caribbean.

Her husband, Frank, died in 1949.

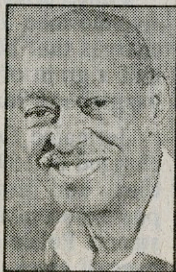
Survivors include a son, Earl D. of Buffalo; three grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday in Friendship Baptist Church, 402 Clinton St.



# Walter Jackson Givens, physical therapist

Walter Jackson "Jack" Givens of Buffalo, considered one of the area's pioneering physical therapists, died Wednesday (June 10, 1998) in Buffalo General Hospital. He was 76.



Givens completed his degree in physical education in 1949 at the University of Buffalo, where he lettered in varsity basketball. He received his certificate in physical therapy from New York University in 1951 and taught at UB's Chronic Disease Institute before beginning a 25-year career at Buffalo General Hospital.

A native of Danville, Va., Giv-

ens attended Tuskegee Institute before he entered the Army, serving in Germany and France during World War II.

He was a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity for 52 years and was a founder of its Phi Epsilon Chapter at UB.

Givens had been a member of Lincoln Memorial United Methodist Church since 1950.

Survivors include his wife, the former Doris Walters; two sons, Gregory M. and David M.; a daughter, Debra L.; a brother, Col. Cravane M. of Williamsville; and two grandchildren.

A funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday in Lincoln Memorial United Methodist Church, 641 Masten Ave. Burial will be in Forest Lawn.

## **GIVENS—Walter "Jack"**

June 10, 1998. Most beloved husband of Doris (nee Waters); father of Gregory M., David M. and Debra L. Givens; also survived by two grandchildren and one brother, Col. Cravane M. (Rhudine) Givens; also leaves to mourn a host of other relatives and friends. Family will receive friends on Saturday at 10 AM; funeral will follow at 11 AM from the Lincoln Memorial Methodist Church, at Main (corner of Masten). Arrangements by THOMAS T. EDWARDS FUNERAL HOME, INC, 995 Genesee. Flowers gratefully declined.

# Annabell Glover



Annabelle Marshall Glover was born April 8, 1913 in Buffalo, New York to the late John and Edna Marshall. She departed this life, suddenly, May 2, 1997 in her home, after having lived a very rich and full life.

Annabelle and her family lived in both Buffalo and Hampton, Virginia during her early years, before finally settling in Buffalo, permanently. She was confirmed as a member of St. Philip's Episcopal Church at the age of 12, where she remained a faithful and tireless member until her death. She sang in the choir, served as a member of the Altar Guild, was a forty year member of Episcopal Church Women (ECW) and assisted with many of the Church's functions.

Annabelle married at an early age to the late Thomas Moss. To this union three children were born: Robert E., the late Ralph W. And the late Brenda J. She was a productive worker for many years working first for Curtis Wright aircraft factory during WW II until her retirement from the Rosa Coplon Home in 1983.

She is survived by her son Robert E. Moss; stepdaughter Cenolia Dorsey; sister, Genevieve Collins (Lloyd Thompson), all of Buffalo; 2 granddaughters, Robin Moss of Oklahoma City and Kelly M. Clark of Rochester; 3 great grandchildren, Mikal, Cela and Eryn all of Rochester; niece Sondra and nephew Timothy of Buffalo; lifelong friend Liz Pamm Lewis; a large extended family and a host of other relatives and friends.



## Annabelle Glover

Annabelle Glover, 84, a former nursing home worker, died Friday (May 2, 1997) in her Buffalo home.

Mrs. Glover worked as a nursing assistant at the Rosa Coplon Nursing Home until her retirement in 1983.

A Buffalo native, she was a lifelong member of St. Philip's Episcopal Church, where she was a member of the Altar Guild and a 40-year member of Episcopal Church Women.



Mrs. Glover also was a volunteer at the Moot Senior Services Center and traveled extensively over the last 20 years with the New Hope Baptist Church Floral Club.

Survivors include a son, Robert E.; a sister, Genevieve Collins; two granddaughters; and three great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday in St. Philip's Episcopal Church, 66 Sussex St. Burial will follow in Forest Lawn.

# Carol M. Glover, operations manager at WUFO

*Dec. 19, 1947 — Feb. 29, 2008*



For Carol M. Glover, WUFO was more than just a radio station; it was a vehicle for serving the community.

Mrs. Glover, the station's operations manager, died Friday in the Center for Hospice and Palliative Care, Cheektowaga. She was 60.

After joining the station as an announcer seven years ago and working her way up to management, Mrs. Glover fell ill last June shortly before WUFO celebrated its 45th anniversary.

"She looked at it as a vehicle of service," her husband, Otis, said of her feelings about the station. "We always talked

about how she wanted it to be an extension of the community in terms of service."

The station at 1080-AM carries gospel programming as well as shows hosted by elected officials, educators and the leaders of African-American community organizations.

"She wanted WUFO to be the true community station, and she always reminded staff of that," Glover said, recalling that his wife worked hard to keep community-based shows on the air even when their hosts didn't always have the money to pay for air time.

"She didn't mind giving," he said.

Born in Buffalo, Mrs. Glover graduated from Fosdick-Masten Vocational High School and attended the University at Buffalo, Canisius College, Medaille College and Emmaus Bible Col-

lege.

She was a certified teacher's aide and a Bible and Sunday school instructor.

In the 1990s, she owned AC Wholesale Laundry on Genesee Street with her late husband, Aaron Salter.

Mrs. Glover enjoyed walking, gardening and traveling and was widely known for her readings of poetry and essays by prominent black writers.

She was a member of Lutheran Church of Our Savior.

In addition to her husband, survivors include two sons, Aaron Salter Jr. and Dane Glover; four daughters, Cashell Durham, Jayme Smith, Janine Glover and Jelyn Glover; and a sister, Elliott Jean Veasey.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday in True Bethel Baptist Church, 907 E. Ferry St.

# Emmett Godfrey

Services for Emmett Godfrey, 84, retired chief stationary engineer for the City of Buffalo Public Works Department, will be held at 1 p.m. Tuesday in Thomas T. Edwards Funeral Home, 995 Genesee St. Burial will be in Forest Lawn.



Godfrey, who was born in Pratt City, Ala., died Saturday (Aug. 31, 2002) in Erie County Medical Center after a long illness.

He moved to Buffalo with his family when he was a boy and attended Technical High School.

Godfrey worked for the Public Works Department for more than 44 years. He installed and serviced boilers and other equipment in many city buildings until his retirement in 1994.

Beverly Webb of Buffalo, a niece, described Godfrey as a man who kept to himself. She said he enjoyed reading.

Survivors include a brother, William Jr. of Buffalo.

# Dr. Frederick D. Gordon

Services for Dr. Frederick D. Gordon, 72, a veteran of the Army Dental Corps during World War II, will be held at 11 a.m. Monday in Lincoln Memorial United Methodist Church, 641 Masten Ave. Burial will be in Forest Lawn.

Gordon died unexpectedly Wednesday (Aug. 10, 1994).



Born in Washington, D.C., he arrived in Buffalo in 1950 to practice dentistry. He stayed in Buffalo for 40 years, retiring in 1990.

He married Mary Pitts on Aug. 25, 1945, in Pittsburgh soon after graduating.

As a member of the American Dental Association, Gordon served on the boards of directors of both the ADA's Eighth District Dental Society and Erie County Dental Society. He also was a member of the Upstate Medical Alliance.

Gordon was a member of a number of fraternal organizations, including Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity, and he was a charter member of Alpha Kappa Boule, the Buffalo Chapter of Sigma Pi Phi fraternity. He also was a lifetime member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the Appomattox Club.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by three sons, Dr. Stephen of Atlanta, Frederick D. Jr. and David; a daughter, Dr. Colleen M. of Rochester; two sisters, Helen G. Quigless of Tarboro, N.C., and Ruth G. White of San Mateo, Calif.; and six grandchildren.



... 7-9 PM.

**GORE—Roy**

October 31, 1995. Private services were held November 2, 1995 at the THOMAS T. EDWARDS FUNERAL HOME, 995 Genesee St. Burial Mt. Hope Cemetery, West Seneca.

**GORIS—Thelma**

**GOWIE—Carlton A.**



June 8, 1995; beloved husband of Gloria Gowie; loving father of Gail, Alonza, Carlton (Nydia) Howard and Kimberly

Gowie. Also survived by six grandchildren and a host of relatives and friends. Wake Tuesday 7-9 PM at Saint Phillip's Episcopal Church, 18 Sussex St. Funeral Wednesday 11 AM. Interment at Forest Lawn Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to St. Phillip's Altar Guild.

# Irving J. Greene dies at 73; longtime Buffalo jazz musician

By RICHARD BATZER

*News Correspondent*

A funeral service and memorial for Irving J. "BoPeep" Greene, a longtime Buffalo jazz musician, will be held Saturday.

A string bass player whose career spanned 50 years, Greene, 73, died Saturday (Dec. 28, 1996) in Veterans Hospital.

Greene, a quiet man of small stature, was given the moniker "Bo-Peep" as a youth because he could hardly be seen peeping from behind his big bass when performing.

After serving in an Army band in Texas from 1942 to 1945, Greene toured with Bull Moose Jackson, well-known vocalist and saxophonist, and then played in the house band of New York City's famed Apollo Theater in Harlem.

While working in New York, Greene accompanied singers Sarah Vaughn and Sammy Davis Jr., among others.

Like so many musicians, Greene tired of road life and returned home. He played at the Club Moonglo with the C.Q. Price Band and with Al Williams. He also worked at the Post Office.

Greene played several Variety Club shows and at the Erie County Fair with the former Eli Koni-koff Dixieland Band.

He accompanied singer Della Reese, who began her career at the Moonglo.

Greene's brother Kenny, a drummer, left Buffalo to tour with Reese.

Greene played most Buffalo-area venues, including the Town Casino, Glen Park, the Little Harlem Hotel and the Vendome Hotel.

Kenny Greene recalled that he



and his brothers, BoPeep and James (Jimmy), a retired piano player living in San Diego, all took piano lessons at the former Chapel Community Center in Buffalo at the insistence of their late father, James Sr., himself a piano player.

The Greene boys' mother, Prudence, was a singer.

After graduating from School 32, Greene went to Burgard Vocational High School, where he learned to play trumpet and baritone horn.

One day, big-name drummer Gene Krupa visited the school and heard Greene play trumpet.

"You have talent," Krupa told the boy, "but the trumpet isn't your instrument. Try something else."

Greene switched to bass. He was as much interested in classical music as jazz and aspired to someday join the Buffalo Philharmonic.

But the time wasn't right. Black and white musicians were still segregated.

Greene also was an avid reader, often sitting up all night with a good book.

Most recently, Greene played bass with the Macy Favor Orchestra and Jim White's Apollo Big Band in Buffalo.

Greene and his wife, the former Mildred Nelson, were married nearly 40 years.

She and their son, Irving Jr., survive.

Saturday's ceremonies will begin with a wake at 10 a.m. in St. Philip's Episcopal Church, 15 Fernhill Ave., across Grider Street from Erie County Medical Center.

The Macy Favor Orchestra will perform at the wake.

Father Will Webb, rector, and the Rev. James Williams, an Episcopal deacon, will officiate at the funeral service at 11 a.m. Burial will be in Forest Lawn.

At 4 p.m. Saturday, there will be a musical memorial to Greene at the Colored Musicians Club, 145 Broadway.



# Kenneth Greene, retired manager for The News

By DALE ANDERSON

*News Staff Reporter*

Kenneth Howard Greene, 70, a retired manager for The Buffalo News and a prominent jazz musician here in the 1950s and '60s, died Tuesday (Aug. 31, 1999) in Buffalo General Hospital after a long illness.

Born in Buffalo, he was a graduate of Burghard Vocational High School and served in the Army during the Korean War.

A drummer, he was a part of a musical family. His brother, James "Jimmy," former husband of jazz singer Dodo Greene, was house pianist at the Colored Musicians Club. Another brother, the late Irving "Bo Peep" Greene, was a jazz bassist.

Kenny Greene recalled that he and his brothers took piano lessons at the former Chapel Community Center in Buffalo at the insistence of their late father, James Sr., himself a piano player. Their mother, Prudence, was a singer.



In the 1950s, Greene toured worldwide with singer Della Reese and was a member of Ella Fitzgerald's band.

After he stopped touring, he was a member of the Hackney Brothers Trio, a popular local jazz group, and played the major clubs here. He played with numerous other local bands before he stopped performing in 1968. He also was a drum instructor.

He worked for The News for 28 years, first as a circulation manager, then as transportation manager. He retired in 1991.

Active in St. Philip's Episcopal Church, he was a lay minister and a Sunday school teacher. He also was a former president of the church's Men's Club.

He and the former Irene McLeisch were married in 1962.

In addition to his wife, survivors include three daughters, Kim Harlene, Kelly Harlan of Charlotte, N.C., and Kristie Hollie Binks of the Town of Tonawanda; and a brother, James of San Diego.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Friday in St. Philip's Episcopal Church, 15 Fernhill Ave. A musical tribute in the Colored Musicians Club, 145 Broadway, directed by club President Macy Favor, will follow at 7 p.m.



**GREY—William Jr.**

May 4, 2000, family will be present Tuesday 6-8 PM at H. ALFRED LEWIS MORTUARY, INC., 968 Jefferson Ave., where funeral services will be conducted Wednesday at 11 AM.

# Frances K. Hall, first black librarian in city of Buffalo to be certified

*June 7, 1916 – Aug. 6, 2007*



Frances K. Hall of Buffalo, the first certified black librarian in city history, died Aug. 6 in Seattle. She was 91.

Born Frances Knight in Thomasville, Ga., she moved to Buffalo with her family as a child and remained a city resident most of her life.

A Hutchinson-Central High School graduate, she earned a bachelor of arts degree from Talladega College in 1938 and a bachelor of science degree in library science from the University of Buffalo in 1939.

Mrs. Hall began working for one of the predecessors of the Buffalo and Erie County Library in 1943 and earned her certification in 1951. She spent 34 years working for the library or its predecessors, the last seven as an assistant deputy director.

She retired in 1979.

During her time with the library, she performed a number of duties, including working as a traveling field worker who helped upgrade town and city libraries throughout the county. She also helped establish libraries at the Erie County Home and Infirmary, the Holding Center and the Penitentiary.

The Librarians Association, which represented unionized librarians in the county, named Mrs. Hall their librarian of the year in 1973.

One of the founding members of the Gamma Phi Omega chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha, she also served as a board member for the Buffalo Urban League and Legal Aid, and was a member of numerous organizations.

Wife of the late Thomas B. Hall Sr., she is survived by two sons, Thomas B. Jr. and Glowver D.

# Walter Leon Hall, groundbreaking GM plant foreman

*Sept. 2, 1932 — Sept. 22, 2007*



Walter Leon Hall, one of the first African-Americans to become general foreman of the General Motors plant in the Town of Tonawanda, died Saturday in the Center for Hospice & Palliative Care, Cheektowaga. He was 75.

Born in Anniston, Ala., Mr. Hall moved to the Buffalo area after serving in the Korean War as an Army corporal.

After leaving the Army, Mr. Hall began his career at the Chevrolet plant in the Town of Tonawanda and was soon promoted to Production Department supervisor. He held many

other management positions throughout his career.

In 1976, he received the Black Achievers Award for his professional achievements.

By the time he retired in 1986, Mr. Hall had left behind "a legacy of hard work, determination, and helped open doors for future African-Americans in management," said his wife of 41 years, the former Joan Young.

As a retiree, he dedicated himself to his church and community. He was president of the Men's Club of Lutheran Church of Our Savior, was a member of the Stewardship Committee and chairman of the Budget Committee. He also was active in fundraising.

Mr. Hall also volunteered in the soup kitchen at Durham

Memorial African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church and was a generous contributor to many organizations, including the City Mission.

In recognition of his religious and community service, Mr. Hall was awarded the Religious Service Award in 2004 from the Network of Religious Communities.

In addition to his wife, survivors include a son, Ronald Johnson; two daughters, Leslie Johnson and Patricia; three brothers, Bobby Hall William-son, James and Clarence; and two sisters, Tommie Louise Harris and Frankie Mae Noel.

His funeral will be at 1:30 p.m. Friday in Lutheran Church of Our Savior, 26 Brunswick Blvd., preceded by a wake at 12:30.

# Stig-Ove A. Kongsted Hansen dies; president of Osmose International

Stig-Ove A. Kongsted Hansen, 57, president of Osmose International, a subsidiary of Osmose Wood Preserving here, died Monday (Aug. 25, 1997) while on a business trip to Copenhagen, Denmark.

Hansen, a Buffalo resident for the past 20 years, was born in Stockholm, Sweden, and was raised in Colombia. He graduated in 1959 from Ridley College, St. Catharines, Ont., attended the University of Toronto and graduated from l'Ecole des Hautes Etudes Commerciales in Paris. He worked in



the import-export business with his father in Mexico for 14 years prior to joining Osmose in 1977.

He was a member of the Saturn Club and Clarksburg Country Club, Eden, and served on Ridley College's board of governors. He was also a member of the American Wood Preservers Association and the International Trade Council of Western New York and had lectured at local colleges on international trade.

He was an avid skier and hiker and spoke six languages.

Survivors include his wife, Marja-Liisa; a son, Alex; a daughter, Pia; and his father, Alexander of Mexico.

A memorial service will be scheduled.



## Percy Harris

Services for Percy Harris, 88, a retired General Motors Corp. employee, were held today in New Hope Baptist Church, 543 Richmond Ave. Burial was in Forest Lawn.

Harris, who was born in Richmond, Va., died Thursday (Nov. 8, 2001) in Niagara Lutheran Home after a long illness.



He came to Buffalo with his family in 1930 and served in the Navy during World War II.

Harris was a setup man at GM's Chevrolet plant in Buffalo for many years until his retirement in 1975. He also was employed by the Federal Credit Union for many years. He was an active member for many years of Local 424, United Auto Workers.

He also was a member of Henry Pollard Post, AMVETS, and the Moot Center.

Survivors include his wife, the former Gladys Barlow; a daughter, Shirley Lanier of Buffalo; a son, Hassan of Saudi Arabia; a sister, Emma Hartzog of Buffalo; a brother, Wallace of Buffalo; 10 grandchildren; and several great-grandchildren.

# Rev. George L. Harris, active in community

The Rev. George L. Harris, 85, of Buffalo, long active in community church affairs, died Saturday (Dec. 5, 1998) in the Delaware Avenue Nursing Home after a long illness.

Born in Buffalo, he was an assistant pastor of Faith Temple Church of God in Christ for 15 years and served as its pastor for 15 years before retiring in 1984.



He retired from Bethlehem Steel in 1970 and was well-known for his love of music and art.

Survivors include his wife of 14 years, Mildred; two sons, George Jr. of Nashville, Tenn., and Robert; a daughter, Carol Johnson of Las Vegas; eight step-children; 32 grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday in the McCoy Convention Center, 653 Clinton Ave. Burial will be in Acacia Cemetery, Tonawanda.

# John E. Hemphill Jr., corrections officer, frequent political candidate

April 7, 1926 — July 28, 2007



John Elliott Hemphill Jr. might have announced his candidacy more than any other political hopeful in Buffalo.

Over the last 30 years, Mr. Hemphill, a retired corrections officer and East Side political activist, seldom entered a campaign season without seeking major public

office.

Describing himself as an independent Democrat, he ran or circulated petitions mainly in Democratic primaries, but sometimes ran as an endorsed Republican and Conservative.

He died Saturday in his Buffalo home under hospice care after a brief illness. He was 81.

Mr. Hemphill campaigned for the State Senate in 1980, 1982, 1984, 1986, 1988, 1994, 1996 and 1998; for the Common Council in 1983, 1987, 1991 and 1995; for the Erie County Legislature in 1989, 1999, 2001 and 2005; for the Assembly in 1992; for mayor in 1993; and for sheriff in 1997.

His first try for public office came in 1965, when he ran as a Republican for 25th Ward supervisor on the old county Board of

Supervisors.

Mr. Hemphill never won an office. In several campaigns, he dropped out before the primaries or was disqualified on petition challenges.

A longtime member of the North Fillmore Democratic Club, Mr. Hemphill earlier this year filed an application to be considered for appointment to the Common Council's Masten District seat vacated by newly elected State Sen. Antoine M. Thompson.

In the 1980s, he and his brother, the Rev. James T. Hemphill Sr., now deceased, both sought the Council's Masten seat in the primaries. His daughter, Deborah Truesdale, recalled that after both were defeated, each accused the other of stealing his votes.

"It was a hobby for him," she said of her father's many candidacies. "He used his own funds. He got a kick out of it."

Born in Buffalo, the oldest of four boys, he was a graduate of Burgard Vocational High School and served in the Army in the Pacific during World War II, attaining the rank of corporal.

After earning a certificate in electrical technology from Erie County Technical Institute, he was an electronics technician and quality-control supervisor for Sylvania Electric from 1947 to 1955, then became an electrical quality-control inspector for Bell Aircraft and Niagara Machine & Foundry.

Mr. Hemphill became a corrections offi-

cer at the Erie County Correctional Facility in the 1960s and received four commendation medals. One of the officers transferred to Attica Correctional Facility during the 1971 prisoner uprising, he retired in 1990 as a senior corrections officer.

In 1982, he earned a degree from Canisius College in political science and criminal justice.

Mr. Hemphill worked for several years for the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms, checking the testimony of informants.

A member of the National Rifle Association and the Western New York Pistol League, he was an instructor in the hunter safety program for the state Department of Environmental Conservation. He was a member of the Black Leadership Caucus, the Afro-American Police Association, the NAACP, the Civil Service Employees Association and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

His marriage to the former Theresa Grace Foster ended in divorce.

Surviving are three sons, John III, Dean and Kevin Green, and four daughters, Deborah Truesdale, Lisa Fayson, Veronica Nichols and Jeannine.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday in St. Paul's AME Zion Church, 610 Eagle St.

— Dale Anderson

**HERNDON—Edward Jr.**

September 2, 1999, of Buffalo, NY; beloved father of Edward III, Zinene Herndon Wallace and Amar; dear son of Edward Sr. (Jean); also survived by other relatives and friends. Services for Mr. Herndon will be held Saturday 12 Noon from St. Philips Episcopal Church, 18 Sussex. Friends are invited. Arrangements are entrusted to MEMORIAL CHAPELS OF BUFFALO, 66 E. Utica St. Interment private.



## Ella Mae Hill

Ella Mae Hill, a longtime local caterer, died Saturday (Jan. 3, 1998) in Erie County Medical Center after a brief illness. She was 70.

A native of Greensboro, N.C., Mrs. Hill was a child when she moved to Buffalo with her family.



At the age of 11, Mrs. Hill began honing her catering skills under the tutelage of her mother, the late Willie Smith, and the two teamed up to prepare numerous banquets and fund-raisers for churches.

In May 1969, Mrs. Hill helped found the Rossetts Catering Club, becoming its first president. The Rossetts catered receptions and banquets in Albany, New York City, Atlanta, Washington, D.C., and Canada.

Mrs. Hill's daughter, Lillian Scott, said: "My mother's specialty was her famous food-show extravaganza, which featured 40 different items, including stuffed salmon, Cornish hens, Jell-O molds and peach cobbler, all wheeled down on carts."

In 1983, Mrs. Hill joined her daughter and late son-in-law, George Scott, in the restaurant business as owners of Kensington Place, 377 Kensington Ave. Mrs. Hill continued to work in the restaurant until her death.

In addition to her daughter, survivors include her husband, James; three sons, Willie of Washington, D.C., John of Cleveland and Dr. Chester Williams of Boston, Mass.; a sister, Genevieve Stevenson; two brothers, Leroy and Samuel Green; 14 grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

A funeral will be held at noon Thursday in St. John Baptist Church, 184 Goodell St. Burial will be in Forest Lawn.

*In Loving Memory*

# ADDISON HINTON

Born: July 21, 1915

Died: July 2, 1994

## *Funeral Services:*

St. Philips Episcopal Church  
15 Fern Hill

July 8, 1994 at 11:00 a.m.

## *Interment:*

ACACIA PARK  
Resthaven

Fill not your hearts with pain and sorrow,  
but remember me in every tomorrow.  
Remember the joy, the laughter, the smiles.  
I've only gone to rest a little while.  
Although my leaving causes pain and grief,  
my going has eased my hurt and  
given me relief.

So dry your eyes and remember me,  
not as I am now, but as I used to be.  
Because, I will remember you all and  
look on with a smile.

Understand, in your hearts, I've only gone to  
rest a little while.

As long as I have the love of each of you,  
I can live my life in the hearts of all of you.

---

THOMAS T. EDWARDS FUNERAL HOME, INC.  
995 Genesee Street • Buffalo, New York 14211



# Clemmon H. Hodges, social worker, church leader

Clemmon H. Hodges, a retired social worker and longtime community and church leader, died Tuesday (Aug. 19, 1997) in Millard Fillmore Suburban Hospital, Amherst, after a long battle with heart disease. He was 71.

Hodges retired in 1991 as director of the Social Work Service for the Veterans Hospitals in Batavia and Rochester. He later joined the faculty of University at Buffalo's School of Social Work as an adjunct professor, a position he held until his death.



A native of Starkville, Miss., Hodges was a graduate of Morehouse College and UB's School of Social Work. He served in the U.S. Marines during World War II.

For more than 50 years, Hodges was a member of First Shiloh Baptist Church, where he was a Christian education teacher and member of the board of trustees. He was vice president of the American Baptist Churches on the Niagara Frontier, past chairman of the Financial Committee of the Council of Churches of Buffalo and Erie County and past president of the Laymen's Department of the Empire State Baptist Convention and the National Baptist Convention.

Hodges was president of First Shiloh Development Corp. In this position, he was the leader and driving force for the corporation's partnership with the Ellicott Mall Partnership, which resulted in ren-

ovation of four mid-rise apartment buildings, construction of several town houses and 24 soon-to-be-completed senior patio homes in the Ellicott District.

Throughout his professional career, Hodges served as chairman of the Western New York chapter of the National Association of Social Work; vice president of the United Way of Buffalo and Erie County; and a board member of the American Red Cross, the Buffalo Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Erie County Medical Center, Housing Opportunities Made Equal and Buffalo Federation of Neighborhood Centers.

Hodges also served as president of Living Opportunities of Western New York, a licensed, private, not-for-profit organization incorporated under the auspices of the state Office of Mental Health to provide homes for the mentally ill.

He was a founder and vice president/treasurer of 1490 Jefferson Enterprise, a community service center and senior housing program.

He also was a life member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and a member of Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity.

Survivors include his wife of 44 years, Leah Coles Hodges; two sons, Clemmon Howe II of Falls Church, Va., and Kevin Coles of Alexandria, Va.; two brothers, Ezell of Starkville and Kleban; and a sister, Sally Lou Stovall of Starkville.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday in First Shiloh Baptist Church, 15 Pine St. Burial will be in Forest Lawn.

**HORTON—Floyd E. "Dad"**

April 19, 1995, beloved husband of Marion Horton; father of Ronald (Valerie) Hicks; brother of eight siblings; also survived by other relatives and friends. Wake Sunday 6-8 PM. Funeral Monday 11 AM at El-Bethel Assembly, 511 Michigan Ave. Arrangements by THOMAS T. EDWARDS FUNERAL HOME.



# Laura A. Howard, retired teacher's aide

Laura A. Howard, 80, of Buffalo, a retired teacher's aide at the College Learning Lab at Buffalo State College, died Friday (July 18, 1997) in the Deaconess Center after a lengthy illness.

The former Laura Anderson was born in Buffalo and attended Lafayette High School. She worked for 25 years as a teacher's aide at the College Learning Lab before retiring in 1987.

She served as a liaison with the Veterans Education Group at Buffalo State College.

She was a member and former president of the Buffalo Urban League Guild and served on its board of directors and was a former member of the board of directors of the Buffalo Urban League.

She also was a former member of the Superintendent's Advisory Council for Occupational Education under former Buffalo School



Superintendent Eugene Reville and a member of the Hamlin Park Association.

She was a deacon at Bethlehem Presbyterian Church, a member of its board of trustees and its Missionary Board and a former member of the choir.

She received many awards for community service and a certificate of appreciation from President Gerald Ford for service on the Selective Service Board.

She was an avid bridge player and a founding member of the Little Slam Bridge Club.

Her husband of 43 years, Donald, died in 1980.

Survivors include two sons, Donald of San Francisco and David; two daughters, Laura of Los Angeles and Michelle Howard-Goss of New York City; a brother, Robert W. Anderson of Grand Island; seven grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday in Bethlehem Presbyterian Church, Bird Avenue and Hoyt Street. Private burial will be in Elmlawn Cemetery, Town of Tonawanda.

# Gayle Mamie Martha Hughes

Services for Gayle Mamie Martha Hughes, 28, who sang with the choirs of Holy Angels Academy, Canisius High School and the Andrew Brown Choir at the University at Buffalo, will be held at 10:30 a.m. Thursday in St. Philip's Episcopal Church, 15 Fernhill Ave.



The Buffalo native died Sunday (Jan. 7, 1996) in Buffalo General Hospital after a brief illness.

She had a special talent for singing. She attended Martin Luther King School, City Honors, Holy Angels Academy and UB.

Survivors include her mother, Rosemarie Peterson Hughes; her father, George E. Hughes II; three brothers, George E. III, Gary L. and Garland D.; and her grandmother, Cleo Peterson.

# Archie Hunter dies; civic leader, social worker, educator, activist

Archie L. Hunter, 66, a longtime civic leader, educator and community activist, died Sunday (March 22, 1992) in Hospice Buffalo after a long illness.



A Buffalo native, Hunter was a graduate of School 32, Hutchinson Central High School and the University at Buffalo, where he earned bachelor's degrees in sociology and anthropology and a master's degree in social work.

Hunter was retired from the Erie County Department of Social Services, where he had worked for 32 years, serving in several administrative capacities. Much of his early work was devoted to counseling troubled youth and establishing activities for them.

He also served as adjunct faculty member at Buffalo State College and other local institutions of higher learning for more than 14 years.

Hunter was a lifelong member of Trinity Baptist Church. There, he served as chairman of the board of trustees and financial secretary for more than 30 years. He was also a Sunday school teacher, Baptist training union teacher and a member of the laymen's league. Recently, he coordinated the congregation's efforts to build a new church.

Hunter was a founding member of the Phi Omega chapter of Omega Psi Phi fraternity and served as its president from 1984 to 1988.

Throughout his life, and most notably after his retirement, Hunter distinguished himself as a tireless and dedicated volunteer to numerous community organizations. A member of the board and

executive committee of the United Way of Buffalo and Erie County, he was also co-chairman of the agency's allocations committee, a member of its management assistance fund distribution, admissions and grants committees, and chairman of its minority advisory committee.

Hunter also served as vice president of the Geneva B. Scruggs Community Health Care Center and was on the board of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, chairman of the university/community advisory council of the Equal Opportunity Center and secretary of the Buffalo Convention Center Management Corp.

As one of the founding board members of the William-Emslie YMCA, Hunter headed the program and finance committees and was instrumental in developing the capital campaign, which eventually helped provide funds for a new building.

Hunter also volunteered his time to the Buffalo Federation of Neighborhood Centers, St. Augustine's Center, the Buffalo Urban League, the Buffalo NAACP and the Foundation of the New York State Nurses Association.

In 1991, the United Way recognized Hunter as its Volunteer of the Year and the Alumni Association of the School of Social Work at UB selected him as its Social Worker of the Year.

He served with the U.S. Army in Europe during World War II.

Hunter is survived by his wife, Juanita; two sons, Jeffery of Annandale, Va., and Wayne; a daughter, Gail of Salem, N.Y., and a brother, Robert.

Services will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday in First Shiloh Baptist Church, 40 Pine St. Burial will be in Forest Lawn.